

## The College and Career Readiness Benchmark<sup>1</sup> on the SAT

	OLD: Pre-2016 SAT	NEW: Redesigned SAT
What is it based on?	Composite score of the three sections of Critical Reading, Writing (with mandatory essay), and Mathematics	Subject specific scores in the two areas of Evidence Based Reading and Writing, and Mathematics
What is the benchmark score?	Composite score of 1550 out of a maximum score of 2400	Evidence Based Reading and Writing: 480 out of 800  Mathematics: 530 out of 800
What does achieving this score predict?	65% or greater likelihood of a B- (2.67) or better first year grade point average (FYGPA)	75% probability of earning at least a C in related first semester courses
How was this benchmark derived?	By analyzing the postsecondary performance of SAT test takers and then determining the score at which at least 65% achieved a B- or higher FYGPA	By analyzing the postsecondary performance of pre-2016 SAT test takers, determining the score on the old test at which at least 75% earned a C or better in related first semester courses, and then mapping that score onto the new SAT scale using a concordance table
What postsecondary institutions were included in the analysis?	Four-year institutions only	Both two- and four-year institutions
What postsecondary coursework was included in the analysis?	All coursework in the first year	Credit-bearing, non-remedial coursework from first semester that related to the relevant SAT section
Specifically what courses were included?	All courses	Evidence Based Reading and Writing: Literature, social science, history, and writing courses (100-level courses)  Mathematics: Algebra, pre-calculus, calculus, and statistics courses (100- level courses)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Most test results are reported in scale score units. They are the most precise way to understand individual student and group performance. For example, the Smarter Balanced assessment results are reported on a scale that ranges from 2000 to 3000, while the SAT scale for each subject test ranges from 200 to 800. A benchmark score is one point on that scale. Two students with marginally different scale scores may be placed on either side of a benchmark. Therefore, it is extremely important to not view student or aggregate performance solely in terms of benchmark attainment but also utilize the underlying scale scores. Benchmarks are intended as a starting point for discussion about performance. The CSDE views these new SAT benchmark scores as a useful but preliminary measure.

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